4F

[redacted] close friend of [redacted] wrote a letter to [redacted] in July 77, sending clippings from story in New West. [redacted] immediately called his daughter, who said author Kilduff was disreputable and shouldn't be believed. "Dammit, you know me better than that," and Jerry Brown, Moscone and some other politicians had been making speeches in PTC with their arm around Jones, and what would they be doing with JJ if he were as bad as New West said. Cited letters on bulletin board from Mondale, Ros Carter and Scoop Jackson. "Can you envision them endorsing him if any othose things were true." I still had some trepidation, but I didn't think she would lie to me. I was a fool. I begged her to get out of there (SF) and come talk to me, but she told me she loved Marin county and wasn't coming home. But that she loved the family and no daughter of mine would ever be involved in things like Kilduff had written. (Actually she had no administrative authority.) He called State in Sept ~~or early Oct~~ 77 and was advised to contact McCoy (he hadn't heard from [redacted] and was worried; he had found out in Sept. that she had left the US, gone to Guyana, then checked with Customs and found she'd left via Miami Aug. 22). Called McCoy and had it confirmed she'd entered Georgetown the next day. I subsequently related to him my fears, and he said he'd been there, that he did not have any problem getting in or out and that he had received one or two communications of a similar nature to mine with the same fears expressed, but there was absolutely no verification that hepersonally or any of the consulate staff could give to these charges. ~~X~~I told him it was most important that I get in touch with her, that unless I heard from her I would come down there personally. He said it was not easy to get to Jonestown and that he didnot see any indication that she had been kidnapped or was being held agst her will. He then promised me that he v see

1704

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY John Simms DATE 3-17-81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

He did this, as well as call me himself and tell me that she looked well everything seemed fine and that she was quite happy. I told him that it was rather normal for someone first arriving in a new environment to be happy, but that he had allayed my fears considerably but not completely and would he, if any vestige of evidence corroborating the ~~xxxxxxx~~ charges made by Kilduff and [redacted] occurred that he E 6 communicate with me immediately collect. I may not have said it specifically, but the implication was clear that I would then come down and get my daughter. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~He did tell me that he would do that. Definitely. I subsequently sent a letter to the State Department (Note) praising McCoy for his help.

When she first left, until I first heard from her, I went to the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Venezuelan consulate in New Orleans and found a map. She had mentioned Port Kaituma, and the other place (Jonestown) was called Mission Field. I got to look at the maps and I realized that it would a staggering problem, that it wasn't a question of getting in by sea, that you had a long up-river trip and had to pass this little town at them mouth of the river. I asked at the Venezuelan consulate if anybody had been there and one had and told me that the thickness of the jungle was indescribable, that to the best of his knowedge you couldn't go in overland. He didn't know why I was asking.

At this time I was thinking about recruiting mercenaries. I was very alarmed until I heard from her on Sept. 29. I discussed it with a professional who had vast experience in training the shah of Iran's bodyguard and is a weapons expert and an extremely close friend. I aslo sought to get some information from a govt. source of mine in Panama [redacted]

We talked with about how many mercenaries we would need, which we hadn't decided; that it seemed almost certain that we would have to go in by helicopter, weapons that we needed, and the repercussions of what would happen if we had to use them--murder charges, perhaps, or construed as an act of war. We knew it would be illegal, no matter how well intentioned. But I would have done whatever I had to do.

Then two letters came from [redacted] and I really felt she was happy doing the teaching she was doing. Those, coupled with McCoy's report, allayed my fears. So we dropped the discussions. E 86

It was going to hurt financially, but I'm not broke. The mercenaries were going cost about $30,000 each. But I had done so many favors for police and investigators, that It wouldn't have cost me nearly as much as anyone else.

I had spent some time in the Liberian jungle during WWII. I had been in the Amazon jungle. I ~~xxxxx~~had spent a good amount of time in the Philipine jungle, which probably most resembles the jungle in Guyana. I had had a good deal of success in talking kids into returning from cult situations. And I'm a weapons expert. There isn't a weapon around I'm not familiar. One of my brothers also was aware of the plans, and he would have been helpful in recruiting.

I would have ~~xxxxx~~gone through every possible legal method to get her out. I would only have done this if I were certain that the rumors were true and that the government would ~~xxx~~not have helped me, unless I had exhausted evry legal means.